REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 34-45 stand in the present application, claims 41 and 43 having been amended and claims 46-56 having been canceled. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, the Examiner notes that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 21, 2007 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion that caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. Accordingly, Applicants have resubmitted the Information Disclosure Statement with copies of the references cited therein. It is not clear whether the copies received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office were mis-scanned causing illegible copies or whether the copies were lost. In any event, Applicants have resubmitted all of the references previously enumerated in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 21, 2007, with new copies of each of those references. Applicants respectfully request that the references be considered and cited in the present case.

The Examiner has objected to claims 41, 43, 47, 53 and 55 for a technical deficiency. As noted above, Applicants have amended the claims which remain in this case which the Examiner identified as having a technical deficiency. Accordingly, the Examiner's objection to the claims is believed to have been overcome.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 46-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. As noted above, Applicants have canceled these claims and accordingly, the Examiner's rejection of the claims is now moot.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 34-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tie Liao ("Liao") in view of Zulch. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's § 103 rejection of the claims.

Liao describes the Global Information Broadcast publish-subscribe architecture. The Examiner alleges that Liao discloses the feature "wherein each of the plurality of thread identifiers comprises a first and second sub-part." In support of this assertion, column 2 of page 23 has been cited with the statement a "URL" has a path and a filename. However, the skilled person would not arrive at such a teaching. The bulk of the cited column is a section entitled "Implementation: Web Content Distribution." The only section regarding URLs is discussing information resources and in particular that:

> an information resource could be stored in any external information
> server or local file system that can be identified by a URL, such as
> http://www.foo.com/welcome.html, or file://ftp.foo.com/pub/index.

Read in it's true context, it is clear that the identifiers mentioned in this section are only discussing the location of the information resources and not the thread identifiers as claimed.

Liao is completely silent on the structure of the thread identifiers, merely saying that they have "an ID." The skilled reader cannot derive any teaching of such a statement as a lead towards the claimed invention. It is submitted that Liao is even

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more basic than the systems mentioned in the introductory portion of the present application.

Zulch has been cited in combination with Liao as rendering the present invention obvious. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, it would be immediately apparent to the skilled reader that Liao and Zulch are not analogous art in the same field of endeavor and to draw such a link is very artificial. Unlike Liao which is concerned with a publish-subscribe architecture, Zulch is concerned with data archive format. Whereas one document is concerned with the distribution of messages containing data, the other is concerned with the long term storage of data. The two documents clearly cannot be readily combined and the skilled person would have trouble coming to such an illogical fusion.

Even if Liao and Zulch were to be combined, the resulting system still does not anticipate the claim. The passage in Zulch relied upon by the Examiner merely states:

> After each segment is written, the separate and resident archive
> directory of the device being archived is updated with only the
> unique portion of the directory chain and the specific unique
> identifier information for the discrete file archived.

Reading the passage in the context of the entire document, namely data archiving, it is clear that it is undesirable to make complete archives of data where power loss or other cancellation results in corruption of the entire archive. In Zulch, the complete set of data to be archived is partitioned so that it is possible between archive operations to only archive the parts which have changed.

Applying the teaching Zulch to Liao, the resulting combination would be a publish-subscribe architecture in which the data of the announcement threads is only

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sent if it is unique, i.e. it adds nothing to the operation of Liao. In particular, the format of the thread identifiers as claimed is not disclosed in Liao or Zulch let alone the operation of the claimed announcement method as specified in the claim.
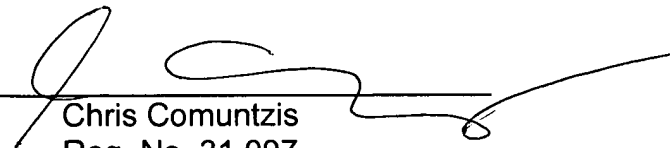
Given that the fundamental documents relied upon by the Examiner are flawed in rendering the invention obvious, detailed comment on the other document combinations need not be made at this time. It is submitted that the deficiencies of Liao and Zulch are not rectified by any of the other cited documents.

Therefore, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all of claims 34-45, standing in the application, be allowed and that the case be passed to issue. If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a supplemental response or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone exchange indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____
Chris Comuntzis
Reg. No. 31,097

CC:lmr
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

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